

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A retainer assembly for maintaining the position of a manifold in a tank, comprising:
  - a seat configured for attachment adjacent an end of the manifold;
  - a retainer base configured for engaging said seat, said seat retaining said base
  - 5 relative to the manifold; and
  - at least one retaining protrusion securable to said base for movement between a first, retracted position and a second, extended position.
2. The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the tank has an opening and when in said first position, said base and said at least one retaining protrusion are dimensioned to pass through the opening.
3. The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said seat is configured for maintaining said base a specific distance from an end of the manifold, and for preventing relative rotation between said base and the manifold.

4. The assembly according to claim 3, wherein said seat is comprised of at least one notch for receiving said retainer base, and for preventing said relative rotation.

5. The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said seat is secured to said manifold by a fastening means.

6. The assembly according to claim 5, wherein upon attachment to the manifold, said seat defines a vertical displacement between said base relative to an end of the manifold.

7. The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said retainer base has a passage configured for receiving the manifold.

8. The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said retainer base includes at least one appendage.

9. The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said retainer base includes at least one hollow boss.

10. The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said retainer base includes at least one positioning stop.

11. The assembly according to claim 1, further including at least one retaining protrusion, and wherein said retainer base further includes:

a passage for receiving the manifold;

at least one appendage extending from a first surface of said base;

5 at least one protrusion depending from a second surface of said base;

at least one hollow boss, each configured for receiving one of said retaining protrusions; and

at least one positioning stop defining a maximum distance of outward movement of said retaining protrusions.

12. The assembly according to claim 11, wherein said at least one appendage is a rib configured for providing structural support for said retaining base.

13. The assembly according to claim 11, wherein said at least one protrusion is configured for engaging said seat to prevent relative rotation between said base and said seat.

14. The assembly according to claim 11, further including a threaded sleeve disposed inside each hollow boss.

15. The assembly according to claim 11, wherein said at least one retaining protrusion is pivotably engageable on said hollow boss.

16. The assembly according to claim 15, wherein said at least one retaining protrusion is configured so that upon reaching said second position, the manifold is prevented from vertical movement in the tank.

17. The assembly according to claim 15, further comprising at least one fastener, configured for securing said at least one retaining protrusion by threadably engaging said base in one of said first and second positions.

18. A retainer assembly for maintaining the position of a manifold in a tank, comprising:

a plurality of retaining protrusions;

a retainer base having a plurality of installation tabs, a plurality of appendages, a plurality of receiving housings, each configured for receiving one of said retaining protrusions, and at least one depending mating portion; and

a seat fixable to the manifold, and having at least one notch for securably  
5 receiving said depending mating portion of said retainer base.

19. The retainer assembly according to claim 18, wherein the tank includes a tank head having an opening and an underside, wherein a top surface of said retaining protrusion is located in a close proximity to the underside of the tank head preventing vertical movement of said manifold.

20. The retainer assembly according to claim 18, wherein said seat engages said retainer base preventing rotational movement of said retainer assembly.